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Vermont State Auditor

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State Auditor expresses concern over Burlington's failure to respond to Financial Management Questionnaire

MONTPELIER – In testimony before the Vermont House Government Operations Committee Tuesday, State Auditor Tom Salmon expressed concern over the failure of the city of Burlington to respond to a request for information about its management of cash and internal controls.

The auditor's office has sent a list of questions about financial controls to more than two dozen entities in Vermont that receive state funds, including municipalities, school districts, a regional development authority and a solid waste district. On January 3, he sent Burlington such a request. Burlington is the only entity that has failed to respond.

Salmon told the committee that a short financial management checklist was sent to City Council President William Keogh. A more detailed long form was sent to Scott Schrader, interim chief administrative officer.

"At a time when there is increasing concern over the handling of public funds, and especially in light of Burlington's recent track record," Salmon said, "It's a little surprising that Burlington would continue to be aloof on the issue of financial accountability."

Salmon said the auditor's office stands ready to assist all municipal entities with financial or performance issues and will be pleased to do so in Burlington if requested.

For more information or questions, please call 802-828-2281.